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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH1157 Domestic and export prices declined 3-5 percent due to a lack of new enquiries. In addition, the Government decided to release a portion of intervention stocks to help fulfill its old government-to-government deal with the Indonesian Government despite approximately \$20/MT losses.

Post:
Bangkok

Author Defined:
Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Dec. 19, 2011

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,085	-	1,080	-	1,060	990	-	1,054	1,073
WR 100 B	590	-	595	-	590	570	590	587	613
PB 100%	580	-	590	-	580	570	580	580	596
PB 5%	575	-	585	-	575	565	575	575	590
WR 5%	570	-	585	-	570	555	585	573	598
WR 10%	565	-	-	-	565	550	-	560	587
WR 15%	560	-	-	-	560	545	-	555	582
WR 25%	555	-	-	-	550	540	-	548	577
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	535	-	-	-	530	530	-	532	552
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 31.1 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices declined 3-5 percent due to a lack of new enquiries as foreign buyers continued to purchase Indian and Vietnamese rice which is \$100-135/MT cheaper. In addition, the Government decided to release a portion of intervention stocks to help fulfill its old government-to-government deal with the Indonesian Government. The terms of the deal which was finalized by the former Government were the purchase of 300,000 tons of 15% grade new-crop white rice for delivery in the last quarter of 2011 at \$559/MT (C&F). The Government will likely lose money on this deal as the current market price is \$555/MT (FOB), as compared to approximately \$530/MT (FOB) when the deal was finalized in August 2011 before the Paddy Pledging Program which was put in place in October 2011. The delivery will be handled by a private exporter who won in a closed tender last week. Presently, the Government is holding old-crop intervention stocks of around 2.0 million tons. Meanwhile, current Paddy Pledging Program has absorbed an additional 3.6 million tons of paddy (2.4 million tons milled equivalent) from October 7 to December 18, 2011 (Table 2). This accounts for 16.6

percent of the expected total MY2011/12 main-crop production of 21-22 million tons of paddy (14.5 million tons milled equivalent). Post expects the program will likely absorb 10.0 million tons of paddy (6-7 million tons milled equivalent) of MY2011/12 main-crop production by the end of the program in February 29, 2012.

Table 2. MY2011/12 Main-Crop Paddy Pledging Program							
Unit: Metric Ton							
Region	Number of Farmer	Amount of Paddy					
		Fragrant Rice			White Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
		Homali	Provincial	Pathumthani			
North	200,911	221,828	235,279	2,736	903,927	92,340	1,456,110
Northeast	333,934	1,204,064	-	3	28,036	25,344	1,257,447
Central	106,514	-	54,109	11,004	855,224	-	920,337
Total	641,359	1,425,892	289,388	13,743	1,787,187	117,684	3,633,894
Note: As of October 7 - December 18, 2011							
Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce							

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for December 12-18, 2011 totaled 67,397 tons, up 11,144 tons from the previous week, and down 3,492 tons from the four week moving average 70,889 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – December 18, 2011 totaled 8,155,466 tons, up 29.4 percent from 6,302,804 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – December 13, 2011 amounted to 10,302,492 tons, up 23.3 percent from 8,358,338 tons in the previous year.

Table 3: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)					
WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK.AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Oct 2	161,057	145,941	7,235	4,521	60.0
Oct 9	136,317	143,831	7,371	4,658	58.3
Oct 16	94,870	134,274	7,466	4,808	55.3
Oct 23	88,685	120,232	7,555	4,969	52.0
Oct 30	85,087	101,240	7,640	5,143	48.5
Nov 6	74,610	85,813	7,711	5,302	45.5
Nov 13	81,265	82,412	7,793	5,471	42.4
Nov 20	79,201	80,041	7,874	5,643	39.5
Nov 27	78,832	78,477	7,951	5,796	37.2
Dec 4	81,073	80,093	8,032	5,961	34.7
Dec 11	56,254	73,840	8,088	6,113	32.3
Dec 18	67,397	70,889	8,155	6,303	29.4

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/REK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

Table 4: Weekly private registered rice export sales			
Movement (MT)	Nov 28 - Dec 2 (Revised)	Dec 5-9 (Revised)	Dec 12-16 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	102,214	45,484	74,284
4 week sum	146,130	176,171	244,588
4 week mov. avg.	36,533	44,043	61,147
Year-to-date sales	8,586,568	8,632,052	8,706,336

End of report